From: dale nichols

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/2/02 1:34pm

Dear Attorney-General,

I am writing about the Microsoft anti-trust case and the refusal of some nine states to accept the settlement already accepted by the other states involved.

I was totally shocked by the gloating Ms Reno when she announced that a blow for the consumer had been struck against this evil giant. This blow costs those she was protecting literally millions of dollars in the various retirement funds throughout the country as well as millions to all investors. There is a direct relation between this lawsuit and the tumble of the stock market that followed.

I and many others believed that this attack on Microsoft was politically motivated by the Clinton administration and hoped that justice would prevail once a new administration took office.

We need to put an end to this economic persecution by what appears to be self-serving interests of the competitors of Microsoft.

After the many hours the government and the taxpayer money that has been spent on this politically motivated attack on one of America's most consumer friendly companies. (Microsoft has kept the costs of software at an affordable level.)

And after a hard won settlement has been reached that both sides have agreed to WHY? are a few states trying to continue this attack?

It is my opinion that the state of California for one has rejected this settlement because of the pressure the political leaders of that state are feeling from the competitors of Microsoft that are resident in that state. Sort of a warning to outside companies don't be too successful or else.

Giving competitors a foot up by punishing an aggressive hard working company only warns other companies that success doesn't have to come through hard work and new ideas, if you are losing a race blame the winner...its their fault for your lack of progress in the market place.

Please set a tone that says we are not fooled by these pretenses that Microsoft is successful because of hard work and that we respect that.

Stop the on-going persecution and make the agreed upon settlement the final chapter. Lets all get back to work for a better climate for business in America.

Sincerely,
Dale Nichols

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